



## New Jersey Pinelands Commission **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Seminar Offered on Residential Wastewater Treatment Systems** *Two-day program will address new program to strengthen protection of Pinelands water*

NEW LISBON, NJ - The New Jersey Pinelands Commission, in cooperation with the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey Office of Continuing Education, will conduct a seminar on newly required alternative wastewater treatment technologies on October 29 and November 6, 2002. The program will be held at Stockton College in Pomona, Atlantic County.

Rules which recently took effect require the use of alternative wastewater technologies to enhance protection of Pinelands groundwater resources. Five such technologies have been identified by the Pinelands Commission as being capable of meeting the Pinelands stringent water quality standards. Residential development on lots smaller than 3.2 acres may no longer rely on pressure-dosing septic systems as a means of treating wastewater.

Earlier this month, the NJ Department of Environmental Protection approved a generic Treatment Works Approval Permit that will allow local and county health departments to approve the new systems for Pinelands residences. The final step in implementation will be the adoption of ordinances by Pinelands municipalities to allow the new systems under local zoning codes. The Pinelands Commission has been working with the Pinelands Municipal Council on development of the ordinances.

"The DEP has been a valued partner in the development of this innovative program, and the new permit, in concert with other State and local efforts, will facilitate streamlined implementation of the program," explained Pinelands Commission Executive Director Annette Barbaccia. "The seminar will provide an educational forum to guide officials, builders and engineers how to best meet their responsibilities under the new program."

The seminar will address key aspects of the new regulatory program, including technologies, permitting, warranty, operation and maintenance, monitoring and deed notice requirements. Presenters will include experts from the Pinelands Commission, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, and Environmental Engineers representing the technology manufacturers.

People who would benefit from attending this seminar include: health department and municipal officials, septic design engineers, treatment plant operators, septic installers, home builders and realtors. The program has been approved by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services for 11.75 CE contact hours toward the Health Officer and Registered Environmental Health Specialists license renewal requirements.

The cost for the two-day program is \$35.00, which will be waived for employees of Pinelands Area municipalities and health departments. The fee covers registration, materials and meals. Registration is required before October 22, 2002.

For more information or to receive a brochure/registration form, call Ed Wengrowski of the Pinelands Commission staff at 609-894-7300.

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